



TEACHER'S GUIDE TO ADVENTURES FROM THE BOOK OF VIRTUES "RESPECT"

INTRODUCTION

Adventures From The Book of Virtues offers some of the greatest stories of all time, and reinforces character education in an entertaining, fun way. Adapted from The Book of Virtues, the animated stories illustrate character traits such as honesty, friendship, courage, self-discipline and others. Stories are seen through the eyes of two kids, Zach and Annie, who live in a town called Spring Valley. They deal with the same pressures faced by kids everywhere, but they are able to turn to Plato the Buffalo, who lives in a cave high above Spring Valley. Plato has collected some of the world's great stories and when Annie or Zach are faced with a difficult situation in their own lives, Plato and his pals, Aristotle, Socrates and Aurora, know just the right adventure to offer.

GOAL: EMPOWERING KIDS

Children love a good story, and many of these stories have been passed down for hundreds or even thousands of years. Why have these stories endured? Quite simply, they present life's most powerful lessons in entertaining, memorable ways which children are able to apply to their own situations.

GOAL: CHARACTER BUILDING

The stories in this collection reinforce character education: honesty, friendship, perseverance, courage, honor, self-discipline, responsibility, integrity, and work, among others.

SUGGESTED QUESTIONS will help kids respond to each story.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES will offer students with specific applications of each character trait.

TEACHING OBJECTIVES:

Students will do the following:

- Review and assess each story including identifying the character trait being presented by the main character.
- Identify the key "story theme" presented by Zach or Annie, including the challenges they faced in each episode.
- Understand how the same "character trait" shown in the stories can be applied to their own lives.

RESULTS:

Students should:

- Know basic character traits.
- Understand each of the character traits being presented.
- Be able to apply the character traits to their own lives.

WELCOME TO PLATO'S PEAK!

SUMMARY, ZACH & ANNIE STORY:

Zach and Annie need to find some used parts to finish building a go-cart for an upcoming race. But when Jake, a friendly junk yard man, doesn't have what they need, the two kids are rude and disrespectful to him. Plato is concerned and tells several stories about the virtue of respect.

"PLEASE" (Folktale)

Once upon a time there were two little boys. Each of these boys had the word "please" living inside of their mouths. One boy never let the word "please" out; but the other always did.

"DIAMONDS AND TOADS" (European Folktale)

In this folktale, we meet a rather mean mother and her two daughters. One of the daughters is not very nice, and she learns some unappetizing things about toads. Meanwhile, the nice daughter is rewarded with diamonds, simply for being nice.

"THE BELL OF ATRI" (Italian legend)

This is the story of a town where the "bell of justice" rang frequently for many years, bringing the town judges together to be sure justice was being upheld. The bell's rope finally wore out, and it was replaced by a vine. But when a starving horse belonging to a wealthy miser ate the vine, the bell rang and brought the judges together, who then decided the miser needed to give up half his fortune to feed his horse.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR KIDS:

1. What does the word "respect" mean?
2. How did Jake react to Zach and Annie when they were angry with him? Why?
3. What was wrong with the way Zach and Annie approached Jake?
4. What did Aristotle think when he observed Zach and Annie at the junkyard?
5. How did the mother treat her two daughters in "Diamonds and Toads?"
6. Discuss the word "please." What type of attitude is demonstrated when you do use "please" in making a request?
7. Describe a time when you might have been disrespectful to a friend.

ACTIVITIES:

ACTIVITY #1: Have each student make a list of five examples of respect.

ACTIVITY #2: Have students write a paragraph describing an example where someone or something demonstrated respect for an older person.



PorchLight Home Entertainment
11050 Santa Monica Blvd., 3rd Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90025
website: www.porchlight.com
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www.risingstareducation.com

RESPECT